Health-care waste management in a hospital

Good waste management depends on:

- A dedicated Waste Management Team
- Good administration
- Careful planning
- Sound organisation
- Underpinning legislation
- Adequate financing
- Full participation by trained staff
Waste management responsibilities

- **Project Executive:** Hospital Manager
- **Project Manager:** Waste Management Officer
- **Project Team Members:**
  - Hospital manager
  - Waste Management Officer
  - Heads of departments
  - Infection Control Officer
  - Senior Nursing Officer
  - Hospital Engineer
  - Finance Controller
  - Chief Pharmacist
  - Radiation Officer
Duties of the Head of the establishment

- Form a waste management team
- Designate the Waste Management Officer
- Allocate financial resources and manpower
- Ensure that monitoring procedures are carried out
- Ensure adequate training of key staff members
Duties of the Waste Management Officer

- Control internal waste collection
- Ensure correct storage
- Coordinate disposal operations
- Monitor on-site and off-site transportation of waste
- Liaise with department heads to ensure training is carried out
- Monitor waste generation, disposal, costs and public health aspects (e.g. injuries) of waste
Duties of other key staff

Department Heads, Senior Nursing Officer, Infection Control Officer:
Contribute to training and implementation of correct procedures

Chief Pharmacist, Radiation Officer, Supply Officer:
Same duties as above and responsible for the sound management of stores

Hospital Engineer
Same as above and responsible for installing and maintaining storage facilities and handling equipment
The Waste Management Plan

1. Assess present situation and carry out a waste survey
2. Identify opportunities for minimization, reuse and recycling
3. Identify handling, treatment and disposal options
4. Evaluate options
5. Prepare a management plan
6. Establish a record keeping system
7. Estimate related costs
8. Prepare training programme
9. Prepare implementation strategy
Implementation of the Plan

The implementation is the responsibility of the Head of the establishment

• Phased introduction
• Opportunities for expansion
• Identify key personnel network
• Arrange training
• Implement
• Review the plan annually
• Prepare annual report for national government
Waste from scattered small sources

• Ensure that hazardous HCW is **segregated**

• **Prevent** hazardous HCW causing pollution of the environment or harm to human health

• Where possible arrange for **special collection**

• Ensure that the hazardous HCW is only handled and disposed of by **competent persons**